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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

I. MIDDLE EAST: ARABS MOVE AHEAD ON UN DEBATE

USUN HAS LEARNED THAT DESPITE EGYPTIAN EFFORTS TO FORESTALL
A DEBATE ON THE MIDDLE EAST, THE ARAB GROUP HAS COMPLETED
WORK ON A DRAFT RESOLUTION:

--CONDEMNING ISRAEL'S CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF ARAB
TERRITORIES;

--DENOUNCING ISRAEL'S PERSISTENT POLICY OF EXPANSION
AND ANNEXATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES BY FORCE, AND ITS
ATTEMPTS TO ALTER THEIR CHARACTER AND DEMOGRAPHIC COM-
POSITION;

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--DEPLORING THE SUPPLY TO ISRAEL OF MILITARY AND ECO-

NOMIC AID;

--REAFFIRMING THAT A JUST AND LASTING PEACE MUST BE ACHIEVED THROUGH A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT WHICH RECOGNIZES THE INALIENABLE NATIONAL RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. (CONFIDENTIAL) USUN 6253, 11/24.)

2. AFRICA AND ANGOLA

A. GABON CLAIMS OAU MAJORITY FOR FNLA/UNITA

IN A MEETING WITH ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY MULCAHY IN KINSHASA NOVEMBER 23, GABONESE PRESIDENT BONGO AND FOREIGN MINISTER OKUMBA SAID THAT A MINIMUM OF 25 OAU MEMBER STATES WOULD RECOGNIZE THE FNLA/UNITA REGIME IF THE PROJECTED OAU SUMMIT FAILS TO RESOLVE THE ANGOLA CONFLICT. PREDICTING THAT THE SUMMIT WILL TAKE PLACE AND FAIL, THEY STATED THAT:

--THE EXISTING OAU INJUNCTION AGAINST RECOGNIZING ANY ONE OF THE ANGOLAN FACTIONS WILL LOSE FORCE.

--WITH THE HELP OF ZAIRE AND GABON, THE FNLA/UNITA GOVERNMENT CAN ALMOST CERTAINLY COUNT ON WINNING A CLEAR MAJORITY OF OAU STATES.

--BONGO FEELS HE CAN SWING SEVERAL MIDDLE EASTERN STATES INTO THE FNLA/UNITA CAMP AS WELL. (SECRET) KINSHASA 10412, 11/24.)

B. NIGERIANS BLAST SOUTH AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA

NIGERIAN STRONGMAN GARBA TOLD AMBASSADOR EASUM NOVEMBER 24 THAT NIGERIA IS RELUCTANTLY REASSESSING ITS POLICY ON ANGOLA IN RESPONSE TO MOUNTING DOMESTIC CRITICISM AND PRESURE FROM OTHER AFRICAN STATES. NOTING THAT NIGERIA HAS TAKEN PAINS NOT TO CRITICIZE US POLICY IN ANGOLA, GARBA SAID:

--THE SOUTH AFRICAN ROLE IS THE KEY ELEMENT FORCING A SECRET

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NIGERIAN REEVALUATION, ALTHOUGH THE FMG HAS LONG BEEN CRITICAL OF MPLA UNWILLINGNESS TO INCLUDE THE OTHER FACTIONS IN AN ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT.

--MOBUTU "BROKE HIS WORD" TO GARBA BY MOVING REGULAR ZAIRIAN TROOPS AND ARMOR INTO ANGOLA.

GARBA ASKED THAT THE SECRETARY BE INFORMED THAT "AFRICAN

SUPPORT OF THE MPLA IS SNOWBALLING AND THE ONLY WAY TO STOP
IT IS TO GET SOUTH AFRICA OUT OF ANGOLA." (SECRET) LAGOS
11625 (EXDIS), 11/23.)

3. BANGLADESH: ZIA ATTACKS INDIA

BANGLADESH MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR ZIAUR RAHMAN, IN A
SPEECH BROADCAST NOVEMBER 23, CALLED ON THE PEOPLE TO BE
VIGILANT AGAINST FOREIGN ENEMIES OF THE COUNTRY AND TO
"COOPERATE IN INFLECTING ADEQUATE PUNISHMENT ON THEM."

EMBASSY COMMENT: ZIA'S ATTACK ON UNNAMED EXTERNAL FORCES
WILL BE READ BOTH IN DACCA AND NEW DELHI AS MEANING ONLY
INDIA. THE INDIANS WILL BE OFFENDED AND, ZIA'S RHETORIC
WILL NOT HELP CALM FEARS IN BANGLADESH SINCE IT WILL BE
SEEN BY SOME AS AN INVITATION TO TAKE MATTERS INTO THEIR
OWN HANDS. (CONFIDENTIAL) DACCA 5801, 11/24.) INGERSOLL

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